

## Native American Education

South Dakota is home to nine Native American tribes. All of these trace their roots to the Seven Council Fires. Historically, this alliance consisted of the Santee, Yankton and Teton. Each spoke a different dialect – Dakota, Nakota or Lakota – of the same language.

Cultural traditions influence the way Native American students learn. From family structures to spirituality, the Dakota, Nakota and Lakota people have a rich and colorful culture – one that enriches the past, present and future of South Dakota.

### South Dakota Tribes

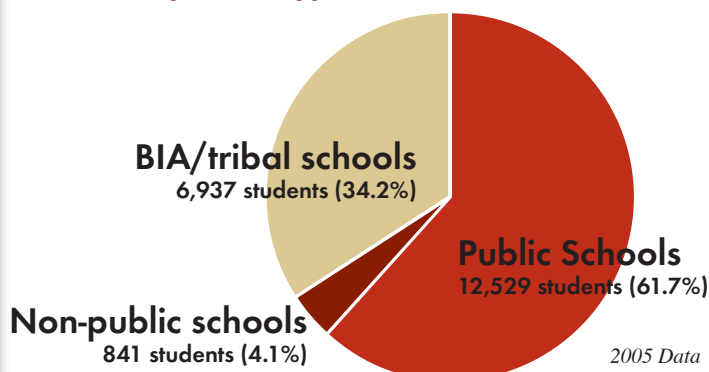
Nine tribal governments operate within South Dakota. Each tribe elects its own chairperson and council members. A list of the nine tribes, along with their headquarters, appears below.

- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Eagle Butte
- Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Ft. Thompson
- Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, Flandreau
- Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Lower Brule
- Oglala Sioux Tribe, Pine Ridge
- Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud
- Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, Agency Village
- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Ft. Yates, N.D.
- Yankton Sioux Tribe, Marty

### Just the Numbers

During the 2005-06 school year, 12,529 Native American students were enrolled in public school districts across South Dakota. That's about 10 percent of the student population. In addition, Native American students were enrolled in non-public, Bureau of Indian Affairs and tribal schools. A listing of these schools appears on the back of this sheet.

### Enrollment by School Type



### Commitment to Indian Education

The South Dakota Department of Education is dedicated to increasing educational outcomes for American Indian students. The department works closely with its Indian Education Advisory Council to build partnerships with South Dakota tribes and schools serving American Indian students. The council also advocates for a culturally relevant, results-oriented education experience for American Indian students.

### Gearing Up for Graduation

As part of Governor Rounds' 2010 Education Initiative, the Department of Education and its partner, the Oceti Sakowin Educational Consortium, received a grant to address the graduation rate of Native American students.

Currently, only 66 percent of Native American students who attend public high school in South Dakota graduate. That figure will decrease as the Department of Education changes the way it calculates graduation rate in order to make it more accurate. Furthermore, only 2 percent of students enrolled in South Dakota's state universities are Native American.

The \$6.9 million matching grant will fund project "GEAR UP," an intensive effort designed to encourage more Native American youth to graduate from high school and pursue higher education. The project includes a rigorous academic component, as well as social and emotional support for students and their families. The program begins working with students in the 7th grade and follows them through high school. Through Summer School Academies, the students spend an extended period of time taking classes and living on college campuses here in South Dakota.

The goals of the program include:

1. Assure students are ready to be successful in the next academic year.
2. Assure students are socially ready to attend college.
3. Assure students have access to rigorous college preparatory curriculum.
4. Assure parents are ready to help students attain their academic goals.

### For More Information

For more information, contact Keith Moore, Indian education coordinator, South Dakota Department of Education, at (605) 773-6118. [keith.moore@state.sd.us](mailto:keith.moore@state.sd.us)

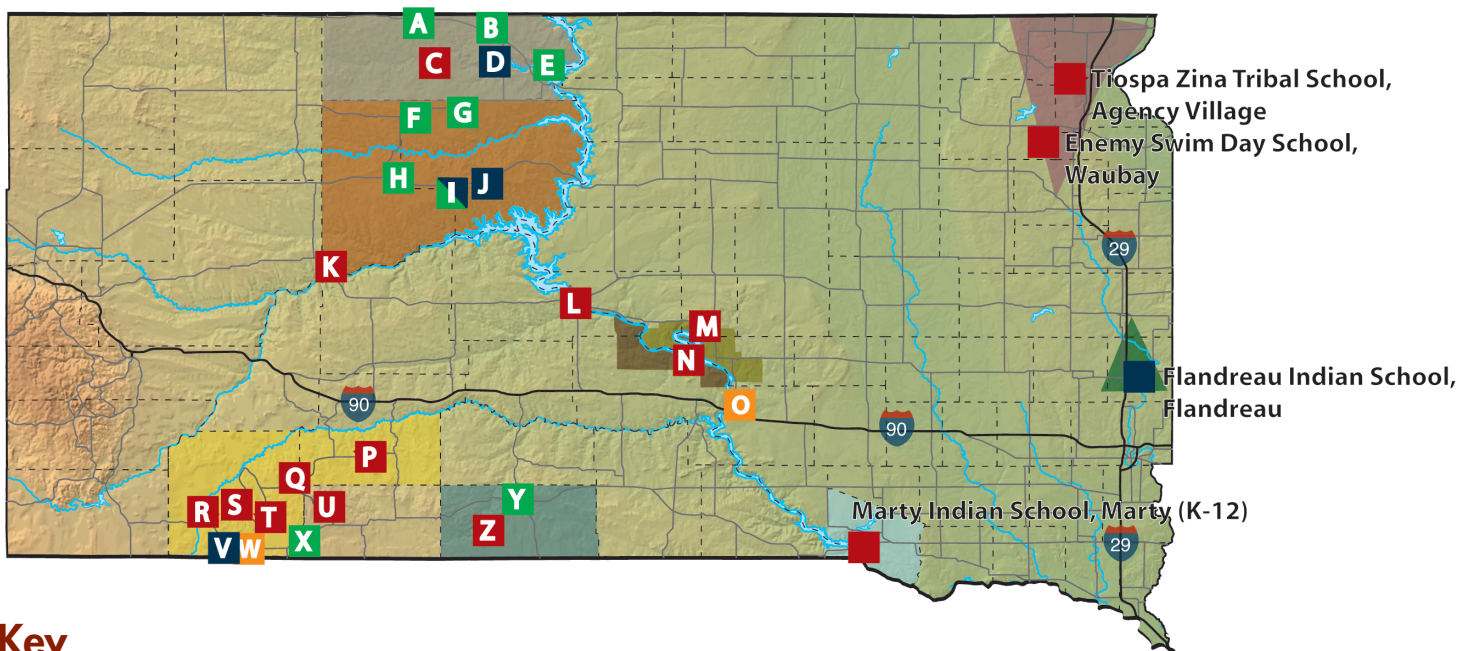


# south dakota DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Learning. Leadership. Service.

## Schools That Serve Native American Students

In addition to South Dakota's 168 public school districts, there are a number of schools operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), individual tribes or private entities that specifically serve Native American students.



### Key

- A - McIntosh School District, McIntosh (pre-K-12)
- B - McLaughlin School District, McLaughlin (pre-K-12)
- C - Rock Creek Day School, Bullhead (pre-K-8)
- D - Little Eagle Day School, Little Eagle (K-8)
- E - Smee School District, Wakpala (pre-K-12)
- F - Isabel School District, Isabel (pre-K-12)
- G - Timber Lake School District, Timber Lake (K-12)
- H - Dupree School District, Dupree (K-12)
- I/I - Cheyenne River-Eagle Butte Schools, Eagle Butte (K-12)  
*Unique arrangement with elements of both public and BIA.*
- J - Tiospaye Topa School System, Ridgeview (K-12)
- K - Takini School, Howes (K-12)
- L - Pierre Indian Learning Center, Pierre (1-8)
- M - Crow Creek Sioux Tribal School, Stephan (K-12)
- N - Lower Brule School System, Lower Brule (K-12)
- O - St. Joseph Indian School, Chamberlain (K-8 and high school program with Chamberlain Public School District)

- P - Crazy Horse School, Wanblee (K-12)
- Q - Little Wound School System, Kyle (pre-K-12)
- R - Loneman School Corporation, Oglala (pre-K-8)
- S - Wounded Knee School System, Manderson (K-8)
- T - Porcupine Contract School, Porcupine (pre-K-8)
- U - American Horse School, Allen (pre-K-8)
- V - Pine Ridge School, Pine Ridge (K-12)
- W - Red Cloud Indian School, Pine Ridge (K-12)
- X - Shannon County School District, Batesland (pre-K-8)
- Y - Todd County School District, Mission (pre-K-12)
- Z - St. Francis Indian School, St. Francis (K-12)
- \* - Tiospa Zina Tribal School, Agency Village (pre-K-12)
- \* - Enemy Swim Day School, Waubay (K-8)
- \* - Flandreau Indian School, Flandreau (9-12)
- \* - Marty Indian School, Marty (K-12)

- BIA Schools
- Nonpublic Schools
- Tribal Schools
- Public School Districts on Tribal Reservations

Contact information for each school system noted above is available on the Department of Education's Web site at [www.doe.sd.gov/ofm/edudir/](http://www.doe.sd.gov/ofm/edudir/). Click on the type of school (eg., BIA, tribal, nonpublic) first, and then on the particular school's name.